

SENATE BILL 1693
By Woodson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
relative to criminal penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-16-609, is amended by deleting subsection (e) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(e)

(1) If the occasion for which the defendant's appearance is required is a Class A misdemeanor, failure to appear is a Class E felony.

(2) If the occasion for which the defendant's appearance is required is a felony, failure to appear shall be punished one classification lower than the highest classification crime for which the defendant is charged, but in no event shall such failure to appear be less than a Class E felony.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.